

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1        1. A method for transferring data, the method comprising:
  - 2            (a) reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device identification and recorded device data for a device;
  - 3            (b) searching an index for an enduring unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,
  - 4            (c) updating the index with the recorded device data.
- 1        2. The method of claim 1 wherein the recorded device data includes a recorded usage data.
- 1        3. The method of claim 2 further including:
  - 2            (a) reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,
  - 5            (b) calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring usage data and the recorded usage data.
- 1        4. The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the recorded device data includes replacing enduring device data from the index with the recorded device data.
- 1        5. The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the recorded device data includes updating enduring device data from an enduring record in the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1       6. The method of claim 1 further including, responsive to a failure to  
2 find a match to the recorded unique device identification in the index, creating in  
3 the index an enduring record for the device.

1       7. The method of claim 1 further including tracking updates to the  
2 index.

1       8. A system for transferring data, the system comprising:  
2           (a) an input record for a device, the input record having a  
3 recorded unique device identification and recorded device data;  
4           (b) a record reader configured to read, from the input record,  
5 the recorded unique device identification and the recorded device data for the  
6 device;  
7           (c) an index having at least one enduring record, each enduring  
8 record having an enduring unique device identification;  
9           (d) an inspector configured to search the index for one of the  
10 enduring unique device identifications matching the recorded unique device  
11 identification; and,  
12           (e) an updater configured to update the index with the recorded  
13 device data.

1       9. The system of claim 8 wherein the recorded device data includes a  
2 recorded usage data.

1       10. The system of claim 9 wherein the at least one enduring record  
2 further includes enduring device data and the enduring device data includes an  
3 enduring usage data and further including:  
4           (a) an index reader configured to read the enduring usage data  
5 from the enduring record having the enduring unique device identification  
6 matching the recorded unique device identification; and,

1           11     The system of claim 8 wherein the updater includes a recorder  
2 configured to replace enduring device data from the index with the recorded  
3 device data.

1           12     The system of claim 8 wherein the at least one enduring record  
2 further includes enduring device data and the updater is further configured to  
3 update the enduring device data from the enduring record having the enduring  
4 unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1           13. The system of claim 8 further including an inserter configured to  
2 respond to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique device identification  
3 in the index by creating, in the index, an enduring record for the device.

1           14. The system of claim 8 further including a transaction log  
2 configured to track updates to the index.

1           15. A program storage device readable by a computer, tangibly  
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to  
3 perform method steps for transferring data, the method steps comprising:

- 4                             (a)     reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device
- 5 identification and recorded device data for a device;
- 6                             (b)     searching an index for an enduring unique device
- 7 identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,
- 8                             (c)     updating the index with the recorded device data.

1       16. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the recorded  
2 device data includes a recorded usage data and wherein the method steps  
3 further include:

4                 (a) reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in  
5 the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded  
6 unique device identification; and,

7                 (b) calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring  
8 usage data and the recorded usage data.

1       17. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step  
2 of updating the index with the recorded device data includes replacing enduring  
3 device data from the index with the recorded device data.

1       18. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step  
2 of updating the index with the recorded device data includes updating enduring  
3 device data from an enduring record in the index having enduring unique device  
4 identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1       19. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps  
2 further include, responsive to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique  
3 device identification in the index, creating in the index an enduring record for the  
4 device.

1       20. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps  
2 further include tracking updates to the index.